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REMARKS

Applicants' attorney notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 13 through 16, which are presented above in clean form without strikeout and underlining.

In this amendment claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of original dependent claims 4, 6, and 8. Accordingly, those dependent claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. And dependent claims 5 and 7 have been amended to depend from amended claim 1.

Claims 1 through 12 were rejected as obvious based upon a combination of the disclosures of the Friedmann et al. '994 and the Cote et al. '848 references. The Friedmann et al. reference discloses a continuously variable transmission including an endless torque-transmitting means and pairs of conical disks about which the endless torque-transmitting means passes. It also discloses a pivotable guide bar for the endless torque-transmitting means. However, and as specifically admitted by the examiner, that reference does not disclose a sensor for detecting the speed of the endless torque-transmitting means that passes around pairs of spaced conical disks. The Cote et al. reference was cited for showing a speed sensor 22 associated with a derailleuer of a bicycle that is driven by a drive chain.

As hereinabove amended, claim 1, by incorporating the subject matter of claim 8 and the intervening claims, now recites that the chain has different pin spacings, and that at least a number of successive pin spacings are stored in the

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control unit, which serves to determine the chain speed. Such a structural and functional arrangement is neither disclosed in nor suggested by either of the references relied upon. Neither Friedmann et al. '994 nor Cote et al. '848 refers to a chain having different pin spacings. In that regard, the Friedmann et al. reference does not mention pin spacing, but focuses on the chain guide structure. And, significantly, the magnets disclosed in the Cote et al. reference, which have been considered to be analogous to the pins recited in the present claims, are specifically recited in the Cote et al. reference as of equal spacing (see Cote et al., col. 5, lines 33-34, which state, "The magnets are AlNiCo in composition and are equally spaced radially and angularly."). Thus, by teaching equal radial and angular spacing of the magnets, the Cote et al. reference teaches away from the invention as it is now claimed in amended claim 1, and consequently the subject matter of amended claim 1 would not be obvious from the references relied upon, whether they are considered individually or together.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, and 9 through 12 each depend from amended claim 1, either directly or indirectly, and therefore those claims are also patentably distinguishable over the references relied upon, and for the same reasons as are given above in connection with amended claim 1.

Based upon the foregoing amendments and remarks, the claims as they now stand in the application are believed clearly to be in allowable form in that they patentably distinguish over the disclosures contained in the references that were cited and relied upon by the examiner, whether those references be considered in the context of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Reconsideration and

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reexamination of the application is respectfully requested with a view toward the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney if this amendment raises any questions, so that any such question can be quickly resolved in order that the present application can proceed toward allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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